

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A heat exchanging apparatus for a motor vehicle, comprising:

at least one first collecting and/or distributing device for at least one liquid medium; and

a plurality of throughflow devices, the collecting and/or distributing device being fluidically connected to the plurality of throughflow devices through which the medium flows at least in sections,

wherein the collecting and/or distributing device comprises at least one base device, one cover device and one separating device which divides the collecting and/or distributing device into at least two partial spaces,

wherein the base device comprises a support level with openings through which the plurality of throughflow devices protrude, a predefined plane of the base device situated above the support level so as to protrude more inward with respect to the collecting and/or distributing device, and at least one projection which protrudes inward with respect to the collecting and/or distributing device from the predefined plane of the base device,

wherein at least one section of the separating device is in at least indirect contact with at least one side face of the projection and with at least one section of the plane of the base device, and

wherein the at least one protrusion is formed by a vertical wall projecting upward from the predefined plane, an inclined wall projecting upward at an angle from the support level, and a horizontal wall connecting the vertical and inclined walls.

2. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the at least one side face of the inwardly protruding projection forms a substantially right angle with the plane of the base device, and

wherein the separating device is arranged at said right angle.

3. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the base device further comprises a plurality of inwardly protruding projections.

4. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as claimed in claim 3, wherein the plurality of inwardly protruding projections are arranged substantially in a straight line.

5. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as claimed in claim 4, wherein side faces of the projections which are in contact with the separating device are arranged substantially in a plane.

6. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as claimed in claim 3, wherein a plane in which side faces of the projections are arranged are aligned substantially perpendicular to the plane of the base device.

7. (Previously Presented) A heat exchanging apparatus for a motor vehicle, comprising:

at least one first collecting and/or distributing device for at least one liquid medium; and

a plurality of throughflow devices, the collecting and/or distributing device being fluidically connected to the plurality of throughflow devices through which the medium flows at least in sections,

wherein the collecting and/or distributing device comprises at least one base device, one cover device and one separating device which divides the collecting and/or distributing device into at least two partial spaces,

wherein the base device has a plurality of inwardly protruding projections which protrudes inward with respect to the collecting and/or distributing device from a predefined plane of the base device,

wherein at least one section of the separating device is in at least indirect contact with at least one side face of a portion of the plurality of projections and with at least one section of the plane of the base device, and

wherein the plurality of projections are arranged so as to be alternately laterally offset relative to one another with respect to a transverse direction of the collecting and/or distributing device.

8. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as claimed in claim 7, wherein the side faces of the portion of the plurality of projections which are alternately laterally offset relative to one another and are in contact with the separating device are situated obliquely opposite one another at a predefined angle.

9. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as claimed in claim 7, wherein the separating device is arranged between the portion of the plurality of projections which are arranged offset relative to one another in each case.

10. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the separating device has a thickness of from 0.2 mm – 5 mm.

11. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the inwardly protruding projection has a surface which runs substantially parallel to the plane of the base device.

12. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the inwardly protruding projection has a face which runs substantially obliquely with respect to the plane of the base device at a predefined angle.

13. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the inwardly protruding projection has a height of between 0.2 mm and 5 mm.

14. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as claimed in claim 3, wherein the inwardly protruding projections extend substantially continuously in a longitudinal direction of the base device.

15. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as claimed in claim 3, wherein the separating device is in at least indirect contact with at least one side face of all the inwardly protruding projections.

16. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein a connecting medium is provided in a contact region between the base device and the separating device.

17. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as claimed in claim 16, wherein the connecting medium is selected from a group of connecting media which includes solders and flux.

18. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the separating device is embodied as a separating wall.

19. (Canceled)

20. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the openings have a substantially slotted-hole-like profile.

21. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the openings have flanges through which the throughflow devices are inserted.

22. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as claimed in claim 21, wherein the flanges point inward with respect to the collecting and/or distributing device.

23. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as claimed in claim 21, wherein ends of the flanges are arranged at a level which differs from the plane of the base device.

24. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as claimed in claim 23, wherein the plane of the base device is arranged higher than the ends of the flanges.

25. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein a plane defined by the separating device substantially represents a plane of symmetry of the base device.

26. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the length of the base device exceeds the length of the separating device.

27. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein each of the plurality of throughflow devices has a substantially flat-tube-like cross section, which is inserted into one of the openings.

28. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the at least one side face of the inwardly protruding projection which is in at least indirect contact with the separating device is larger than the at least one section of the base device which is in at least indirect contact with the separating device.

29. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the at least one section of the base device which is in at least indirect contact with the separating device is wider than the thickness of the separating device.

30. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the support level with openings is formed by a plurality of support devices.

31. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as claimed in claim 30, wherein the support devices are arranged substantially between the openings.

32. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as claimed in claim 30, wherein the base device further comprises a plurality of inwardly protruding projections, and wherein at least some of the support devices merge into the plurality of projections.

33. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the base device has a projecting peripheral edge.

34. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the base device has at least one lug at its periphery.

35. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the separating device runs parallel to the openings.

36. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as claimed in claim 35, wherein the separating device is arranged in a holding section which has guide faces.

37. (Currently Amended) A method for producing a heat exchanging apparatus comprising the following method steps:

producing a base device, wherein the base device comprises a support level with openings, a predefined plane of the base device situated above the support level, and at least one projection which protrudes upward from the predefined plane of the base device;

applying at least one connecting medium to at least one side face of the projection, and to at least one section, which adjoins the at least one side face of the projection, of the base device; and

arranging a separating device on the base device, the separating device being in at least indirect contact with the base device and the at least one side face of the projection,

wherein the at least one protrusion is formed by a vertical wall projecting upward from the predefined plane, an inclined wall projecting upward at an angle from the support level, and a horizontal wall connecting the vertical and inclined walls.

38. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 37, wherein the at least one inwardly protruding projection is generated by a machining operation on the base device, the machining operation being selected from a group of machining operations which includes punching and deep-drawing.

39. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 37, wherein a plurality of inwardly protruding projections is generated.

40. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 37, wherein the at least one section of the base device which adjoins the inwardly protruding projection runs substantially in the predefined plane of the base device.

41. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 37, wherein the support level is formed by at least one support device generated in the base device.

42. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 37, wherein the support level is formed by at least one support device generated in the base device such that the at least one support device merges into the at least one inwardly protruding projection.

43. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 37, wherein the openings are punched into the base device.

44. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 37, wherein one flat-tube-like throughflow device is at least partially inserted into each opening, and a positively locking connection, a cohesive connection, a non-positively locking connection, or a combination thereof is generated between the base device and each throughflow device.

45. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 37, wherein a non-positively locking connection, a positively locking connection, a cohesive connection, or a combination thereof between the base device and a plurality of throughflow devices is generated by a method selected from a group which includes soldering, brazing, welding, or a combination thereof.

46. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 37, wherein the separating device is pressed with a predefined force both against the at least one side face of the projection and also against the at least one section of the base device.

47. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 37, wherein edges which surround the base device are generated by a further method step.

48. (Currently Amended) A heat exchanging apparatus for a motor vehicle, comprising:

at least one first collecting and/or distributing device for at least one liquid medium; and

a plurality of throughflow devices, the collecting and/or distributing device being fluidically connected to the plurality of throughflow devices through which the medium flows at least in sections,

wherein the collecting and/or distributing device comprises at least one base device, one cover device and one separating device which divides the collecting and/or distributing device into at least two partial spaces,

wherein the base device has at least one projection which protrudes inward with respect to the collecting and/or distributing device from a predefined plane of the base device,

wherein at least one section of the separating device is in at least indirect contact with at least one side face of the projection and with at least one section of the plane of the base device, and

wherein each throughflow device has a substantially flat-tube-like form with a first flow chamber, a second flow chamber, and a narrowed region between the first and second flow chambers in which the first and second flow chambers and the narrow region protrude into the base device, and

wherein the at least one protrusion is formed by a vertical wall projecting upward from the predefined plane, an inclined wall projecting upward at an angle from a support level, and a horizontal wall connecting the vertical and inclined walls.

49. (New) The apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the inclined wall of the projection projecting upward at an angle from the support level is a flat wall with a curved connection at the horizontal wall.

50. (New) The apparatus as claimed in claim 1, further comprising collars for securing the plurality of throughflow devices through the apertures in the base device, wherein the collars protrude upward from the support level.